# Delaware's Shoreline Management Program

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REHOBOTH BEACH July, 1906

REHOBOTH BEACH SEPTEMBER 1920



## 1917

CITIES AND TOWNS.

29 DEL. LAWS

CHAPTER 165.

CITIES AND TOWNS.

AN ACT providing for the protection of property along the shore of the Atlantic Ocean at the town of Rehoboth, Sussex County, and the appropriation by the State of Ten Thousand Dollars for that purpose.

WHEREAS by reason of a severe storm in the month of December, A. D. 1914, very great damage was done along the shore of the Atlantic Ocean opposite the town of Rehoboth, in Sussex County, the entire ocean front of the said town of Rehoboth being thereby practically destroyed; and

Whereas by the ravages of said storm all protection from encroachment by the ocean along the shore in front of said town of Rehoboth was entirely destroyed, leaving all the lands and property contiguous thereto,—as well lands owned by the State of Delaware as lands and property owned by private individuals and the corporation of said town of Rehoboth,—at the mercy of the tides and storms by which it might be attacked; and

Whereas The Commissioners of Rehoboth, pursuant to the authority vested in it by an Act of the General Assembly of the State of Delaware at the session thereof held in the year one thousand, nine hundred and fifteen (the same being Chapter 154 of Volume 28, Laws of Delaware) has borrowed the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars and expended the same for the purpose of re-building and protecting the ocean front along said town of Rehoboth, which sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars so borrowed and expended was insufficient properly to complete the protection of said ocean front; and

#### CITIES AND TOWNS.

Whereas the said General Assembly of the State of Delaware at its said session in the year one thousand, nine hundred and fifteen, with but one dissenting vote in either House thereof, duly passed an Act appropriating the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars out of the treasury of the State of Delaware for the purpose of assisting in the re-building of said ocean front so that the property owned by State contiguous to said town of Rehoboth might more adequately be protected from future storms and tides, which said Act of the said General Assembly was not permitted to become a law of the State because of the then weakened condition of the treasury of the State; and

Whereas the burden of debt already assumed by said town of Rehoboth in order to protect said ocean front is as great as it is possible for said town to assume and yet said work is not fully completed; and

WHEREAS the said town of Rehoboth is the only seaside resort within the State of Delaware and therefore is of special interest and importance to all the citizens of the State;

THEREFORE, Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Delaware in General Assembly met (three-fourths of all the members of each branch concurring therein):

Section 1. That the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars appropriated (\$10,000.00) be and the same hereby is appropriated out of the treasury of the State of Delaware to The Commissioners of Rehoboth, the same to be expended under the supervision of the said The Commissioners of Rehoboth for the purpose of furnishing as adequate protection as possible to the property of the State and of the said town of Rehoboth along the Atlantic Ocean contiguous to said town of Rehoboth.

# 1921 Engineering Report for Rehoboth Beach

#### REPORT ON

COAST EROSION AT REHOBOTH, DELAWARE

BY- B.F. CRESSON, JR. Consulting Engineer 50 Church Street New York City, New York.



Photos are courtesy of the Archives and Historic Records

under Delaware State Museums, Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs



Lighthouse fell in 1926

# BY THE 1950'S THE STATE OF DELAWARE HAD DEVELOPED AN ACTIVE PROGRAM TO COUNTER THE EFFECTS OF EROSION.



**BROADKILL BEACH, 1956** 



REHOBOTH Top photo was taken from the 4th floor fire escape at the Henlopen Hotel around noon Wednesday. Notice The Surf Apartments in the background. Bottom photo shows the Bird-Speakman store in the foreground and the Stewart-Kingston Gallery on the right.

#### Photo Credit: Robert J. Bennett



#### COASTAL HIGHWAY MARCH,1962













Labor Day, 2004









#### Coastal Construction Regulatory Program

- Client interface
- Coordination with local communities
- Education
- Application processing
- Enforcement



#### Projects

- Beach Nourishment (AtlanticOcean and Delaware Bay)
- Shoreline Stabilization (Herring Point)
- Planning and Engineering
- Floodplain Map Production(68 Sussex stream miles)





### • Technical Engineering Services Program

- Surveying (topographic and bathymetric)
- Beach nourishment volume calculations
- Condition of navigation channels
- Dredging volume calculations
- Water Resources enforcement
- Site Work



#### Research/Science

- Stay abreast of current understanding (beach processes, sea level rise, etc.)
- Various projects and contacts with researchers and experts from the University of Delaware
- Federal Agencies (NOAA, FEMA, USGS, USACE)















#### Field Operations

- Dune Maintenance Program
  - Fencing
  - Beach grass planting
  - Pedestrian and vehicular crossing maintenance
  - Coastal storm recovery
  - Debris removal (sea mammals)

Sand Bypass Facility





## Indian River Inlet Bypass Plant

















